

*28 February 1955*

**Mr. Allan Evans  
Director, Office of Intelligence Research  
Department of State  
Washington 25, D. C.**

**Dear Allan:**

**Thank you for your letter of February 18 commenting  
on the proposal**

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**I am especially  
anxious, as I know you are, that in our external research  
projects we should make use of whatever pertinent materials  
the Government has available.**

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**Your remarks on page two of your letter are well  
taken. I believe a more precise and tighter prospectus would  
have emerged if on the basis of a rough draft consultation  
had been conducted much earlier with you and others, both  
in the State Department and other agencies. It is indeed my  
intention that inter-agency discussions on an informal basis  
should be instituted early in the development of external re-  
search projects and prior to more formal consultation which  
may be necessary.**

Perhaps, as you say on the substance of the prospectus, it would be better to expect some applicable principles to emerge from the research rather than a body of doctrine that would govern U.S. actions in the field. My own belief and hope is not that the outcome will consist of things heretofore totally unknown to us but rather that it will be in some measure the formulation of things which perhaps we already know, but have not had the time or temerity to state in systematic fashion.

In conclusion let me say that I welcome the candid expression of your views. This is indeed what we want and hope to get. We appreciate the contribution that you have made on this occasion.

15/  
RICHARD M. BISSELL  
Special Assistant to the Director  
for Planning and Coordination

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